

THE EVENING STAR.
PUBLISHED DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY.
AT THE STAR BUILDING.
1101 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. E., by
The Evening Star Newspaper Company
S. H. KAUFFMANN, Pres't.
New York Office, 40 Potter Building.
The Evening Star is sold to subscribers in the
city by carrier, and outside by mail, at 10 cents
per week, or 40 cents per month. Copies at the
rate of 2 cents each. By mail—anywhere in the
United States or Canada—postage prepaid—50 cents
per month.
Saturday Quintuple Sheet Star, \$1 per year, with
foreign postage added, \$3.00.
Entered at the P. O. Office at Washington, D. C.,
as second-class mail matter, May 18, 1898.
Postpaid.
All mail subscriptions must be paid in advance.
Rates of advertising made known on application.

No. 14,107. WASHINGTON, D. C., WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 1898—FOURTEEN PAGES. TWO CENTS.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Why the First Expedition to Cuba Was Delayed.

CAUSE OF CHANGE OF PLAN

Probable Rearrangement of the Various Warships.

SOME OF TODAY'S CALLERS

Plans are in contemplation for a complete rearrangement of the ships of Sampson and Schley's fleets.

The regiment of District of Columbia volunteers is ordered to proceed to Chickamauga Saturday.

The cruiser Charleston sailed from Mare Island for Manila this morning.

The volunteers mustered in to date number 93,560, according to reports to the War Department.

The only information to be obtained from the Navy Department about the hostile fleets in the neighborhood of Cuba was that they had not met.

The Secretary of the Navy has invited proposals for the construction of twelve torpedo boats and sixteen torpedo boat destroyers.

The Navy Department is making arrangements to effect an exchange of prisoners with a view of releasing Thrall and Jones, the two newspaper men confined in Morro Castle.

The 10th Pennsylvania Regiment has been chosen to accompany the expedition to the Philippines.

The Senate, after a short discussion in secret session, adopted the conference report on the bill suspending the action of existing laws relating to the purchase of supplies by the quartermaster's department of the army. Consideration of the war revenue bill was resumed.

The bill making it a penal offense to photograph or publish the strength of fortifications in the United States was debated in the House, but failed to pass, being recommitted.

The President sent a number of army nominations to the Senate today.

Secretary Alger has sent to Congress the draft of a bill to create a second assistant secretary of war.

It is believed that the Navy Department was informed today that the battle ship Oregon had joined Sampson's squadron.

The administration believes that the crushing of the Spanish fleet will end the war. This belief, it is understood today, is what induced a temporary cessation of the active preparations for the invasion of Cuba. When the administration officials learned of the arrival of the Spanish fleet on this side of the water they thought that Admiral Cervera had come to give battle. They calculated that this battle would crush the Spanish fleet, and that Spain's last hope of prolonging the war would vanish, resulting in an immediate request for a treaty of peace. The further idea was that such action by Spain would make it necessary to send a large army of invasion to Cuba. The surrender of Spain would necessitate the sending of 15,000 or 20,000 men to Cuba only to protect citizens and property while a stable government was being organized.

CAUSE OF CHANGE OF PLANS.

The failure to secure battle from the Spaniards, with no prospect of fight in the near future, brought about the prospective change of plans, exclusively referred to in The Star yesterday. These plans are for the early invasion of Cuba, independent of the whereabouts of the Spanish fleet, by a large army of the United States. The Spaniards will be fought and whipped on land and they can do as they please with their navy so long as it keeps away from Cuban shores and Porto Rico. There is no purpose in the efforts to find the Spanish fleet, but these efforts will not suspend the program for moving troops to Cuba.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE VESSELS.

An official who is close to the President said this morning that he understands that the four big and powerful monitors—Puritan, Amphitrite, Terror and Miantonomoh—are now in front of Havana. It is thought to indicate a rearrangement of the squadrons of Sampson and Schley. The plan, he thinks, will be to leave all of the monitors around Havana, in the full confidence that they can whip Cervera badly; to put a squadron around Cienfuegos equal to the Spaniard, and to make up another which will pursue Cervera until he fights or runs for Spain. The squadron which will do the chasing will be made up of the fastest vessels out of the combined fleets. Sooner or later this squadron will encounter Cervera. The fact that it will not have to haul around the slow monitors will add to its speed and effectiveness. The squadron's speed may not then be equal to the flying qualities of the Spaniards, but it will ultimately accomplish what it is sent out for.

The Oregon is expected to join Sampson's fleet in a short time. The New Orleans is now on her way south, and it is thought that the cruiser Columbia is heading south.

With these additions to the ships in the southern waters the opinion is that it will be safe and easily possible to organize three squadrons, each capable of defeating the present Spanish fleet. Each of these squadrons would have a number of smaller vessels with it.

HAWAIIAN ANNEXATION.

Ex-Senator Butler of South Carolina, who fought for so many years with Senator Morgan for the acquisition of Hawaii by this country, is using his influence with his

democratic friends to push through the resolution annexing the islands. He says that in view of the occupation of the Philippines by this country it is absolutely necessary that the Sandwich Islands should belong to us. "The Anglo-Saxon race," he said, at the White House today, "never gives up a piece of ground when it once gains possession." General Butler thinks the Philippines will become the permanent property of the United States. He is surprised, he says, that many democrats are opposing the acquisition of territory on the ground that the history of the democratic party is against increase of territory. "The fact is," he said, "that prior to the war all the land added to American territory was by the democratic party."

TODAY'S CALLERS.

President McKinley and Secretary Porter left the White House before noon today to attend the marriage of Mr. Pike and Miss Alger. The President returned to his desk later and resumed his work. He was busy all the morning before going out, receiving many people.

Senator McKim, the Brazilian minister, bade farewell to the President at 11 o'clock this morning. He was accompanied by Secretary Day and by the first secretary of the Brazilian legation. The farewell greetings were heartily extended by the President, who has a high estimation of Senator McKim.

Sensors Cullom, Hanna, Elkins, Baker, Wolcott, Representatives Curtis of Iowa, Curtis of Kansas and Morris were among the President's callers. Most of these callers were on business relating to military appointments. The President told them that few appointments are left except of lieutenants in the regular army.

ARMY NOMINATIONS.

Selections Sent to the Senate by the President.

The President today sent these nominations to the Senate:

Treasury—George H. Kolker of Ohio, to be appraiser of merchandise, Cincinnati, Ohio.

War—To be inspector general, with rank of major, John G. Evans of South Carolina. To be commissary of subsistence, with rank of captain, James Edward Calhoun of New York, James F. Jenkins of Wyoming.

To be assistant adjutant general, with rank of captain, Harry S. New of Indiana, Beverly A. Read of Texas.

To be assistant quartermaster, with rank of captain, Haldiman P. Young of New York, Frederick H. Bugher of the District of Columbia.

Withdrawals: Capt. James Parker, 4th United States Cavalry, for inspector general of volunteers, rank of major; John F. Jenkins of Wyoming, for commissary of subsistence, with rank of captain; Harry S. New of Indiana, Beverly A. Read of Texas, Haldiman P. Young of New York and Frederick Bugher of the District of Columbia, for assistant quartermasters, with rank of captain.

INCREASING THE NAVY.

Bids Asked for Torpedo Boats and Torpedo Boat Destroyers.

The Secretary of the Navy has prepared a circular inviting proposals for the construction of twelve torpedo boats and sixteen torpedo boat destroyers under authority of a recent act of Congress. The torpedo boats are to have a displacement of from 150 to 170 tons and the destroyers will have a displacement of from 400 to 450 tons. The torpedo boats will have a coal capacity of 1,000 miles, and the destroyers will have a coal capacity of 100 tons. The torpedo boats are required to develop a minimum speed of twenty-six knots, and the destroyers a minimum speed of twenty-eight knots. The bid of cost for the torpedo boats is \$170,000 each, and they are to be completed within a year. Under the law not more than four shall be built by one firm. They will be armed with three 3-pounders and three torpedo tubes. The destroyers are to cost not more than \$300,000 each and are to be completed within eighteen months. Not more than five of these vessels will be built by one firm. They will each have a battery of two 4-inch guns and five 6-pounders, with two 18-inch torpedo tubes.

MONEY FOR DEWEY'S MEN.

They Will Be Entitled to Participate in Division of \$200,000.

It will be good news to the families and friends of the men of Dewey's fleet to know that they have not been altogether forgotten from naval prize money, and that they are to have something more substantial than a medal and the praise of their countrymen for the destruction of the Spanish fleet at Manila on May 1.

The officers of the Navy Department have discovered that section 4635 of the Revised Statutes authorizing the payment of a bounty of \$100 for each man on an enemy ship destroyed after being captured in action. The reports from Manila are that the Spanish fleet was double-manned, in the expectation of conquering the American fleet, and requiring prize crews for the captured vessels. In this case it is likely that there were no less than 2,000 men in the Spanish fleet, which would mean an aggregate premium of \$200,000 to be divided among American sailors. The naval officials are taking steps to ascertain the exact number of Spaniards on the eleven vessels destroyed as a basis for the payments to be made.

TO EXCHANGE PRISONERS.

Arrangements Being Made by the Navy Department.

The Navy Department is making arrangements to effect an exchange of prisoners, the purpose being to secure the release of the two American newspaper men, Thrall and Jones, now in Morro Castle, where they were confined after being captured while attempting to make a landing on the Cuban coast. Two of the Spaniards now imprisoned at Fort McPherson, Ga., who were captured on the steamer Argonauta, one being a Spanish colonel, will be chosen for the exchange, providing the arrangements can be completed. The Madrid dispatch published this morning seemed to indicate that the Havana authorities are disposed to regard the newspaper prisoners as spies, may possibly interfere with the exchange contemplated, all the arrangements for which were made by the Ucas expedition.

URGES IMMEDIATE ACTION.

Secretary Alger recommends a second assistant secretary of war.

Secretary Alger has sent to Congress a draft of a bill to create in time of war a second assistant secretary of war with a salary of \$4,000. The Secretary urges the importance in this exigency of immediate action.

THE VOLUNTEER ARMY

There Are Now About 15,000 Men at Chickamauga Park.

MUSTERING IN THE STATE TROOPS

Big Contracts for Ambulances Filled by Studebaker Brothers.

MORE ROUGH RIDERS ENLIST

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., May 18.—After remaining in their cars over night the following volunteer infantry regiments, which arrived yesterday afternoon and last night, went into camp at Chickamauga Park this morning: The 3d Pennsylvania, 630 officers and men, under Col. Robert Ralston; the 100th Indiana, 1,026 officers and men, under Col. George W. Gunder; the 138th Indiana, 1,422 officers and men, under Col. H. B. Smith; the 2d Ohio, 816 officers and men, under Col. J. A. Kuerst; the 1st West Virginia, 1,011 officers and men, under Col. D. B. Spilman; Light Battery A, Missouri Volunteer Artillery, from St. Louis, commanded by Col. A. M. Rumbolt, arrived at an early hour this morning. It remained in the city until noon, when it got away to the park.

Trains have followed each other in rapid succession today and this afternoon. There are about 15,000 volunteers encamped in the park. A number of regiments not able to obtain transportation for the night on account of the great rush remained in the city over night.

Plenty of Provisions.

The various regiments which arrived before noon yesterday are comfortably settled in camp and are well provided for. Capt. Wright of the commissary department received twenty cars of provisions today, and now has plenty to feed the army for some time. Uniforms, equipments and general supplies in immense amounts are en route. The work of organization, under Gen. Brooke's direction, continues rapidly. The 1st Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, 794 officers and men, under Lieut. Col. Good, arrived this morning. It remained in the city until afternoon, the railroads being unable to transfer the trains to the park this morning.

Camp Townsend Nearly Deserted.

NEW YORK, May 18.—It is the general opinion at Camp Townsend, Peekskill, that the camp will come to an end by Saturday night. There are but two regiments in camp, the 8th and the 9th. The latter is under orders to go to Washington and will likely be under way by tomorrow night. When the 9th leaves it is expected that an order will be issued directing the 8th Regiment to go to Camp Black at Hempstead Plains, L. I., to await orders. There are yet two battalions of the 9th and one of the 8th to be mustered into service.

The 1st Regiment of New Hampshire Volunteers, 1,156 strong, passed through Jersey City today en route to Chickamauga.

Mustering of Connecticut Troops.

CAMP HAVEN, NIAHTIC, Conn., May 18.—Work of mustering in the 1st Regiment, Connecticut Volunteers, was completed today and Colonel Burdett, commanding, telegraphed Major General Merritt of the Department of the East to the effect that the regiment is awaiting his orders.

CARSON, Nev., May 18.—The organization of a second troop of Nevada cavalry is well under way. Its formation was authorized by a dispatch from Washington to Governor Sadler. The thirty-three men mustered in Camp Sadler after the first troop was mustered in were the first to volunteer.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., May 18.—The Utah and Nevada troops of rough riders for Torrey's regiment of cavalry have been mustered in. The Nevada company elected the following officers: Captain, W. L. Cox; first lieutenant, R. C. Gracey; second lieutenant, Charles B. Helderson.

SOUTH BEND, Ind., May 18.—Studebaker Bros. shipped today seventeen carloads of ambulance wagons to Mobile, Ala., for the use of the government. The shipment made a solid train, and is the fourth train load of ambulance and government wagons shipped by this concern.

Work at Allegheny Armory.

PITTSBURG, Pa., May 18.—After an idleness of thirty years the shops at the Allegheny arsenal, in this city, were started up today and a large force was put to work manufacturing leather goods for the volunteer army.

It is not known how long the work will continue, but it is probable that some of the shops will be in operation until the close of the war. As fast as the saddles, harness, belts, cartridge boxes and other equipments for the artillery, cavalry and infantry branches of the army service are completed they will be sent from here to Washington or to one of the national camps.

Two more regiments, the 5th and the 9th Pennsylvania Volunteers, passed through Pittsburgh early this morning en route to Chickamauga.

FLEET HAS NOT BEEN SEEN.

Rumor That Spanish Squadron is at Porto Rico Discredited.

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PORT AU PRINCE, Haiti, May 18.—Nothing is known here of the report from Porto Plata, San Domingo, to the effect that the Spanish Cape Verde squadron, commanded by Admiral Cervera, has arrived at Porto Rico.

Latest news which reached Port au Prince concerning the Spanish warships, specifically confirmed the report that they left Curacao, Dutch West Indies, on Sunday afternoon last, for an unknown destination, after having taken on board coal and provisions.

To Observe for Japan.

Mr. Hoshi, the Japanese minister, saw Secretaries Long and Alger today and secured credentials for Lieutenant Narita of the Japanese navy and Major Shiba of the Japanese army, who will act as observers of our naval and military movements against Spain. Major Shiba took an active part in Japan's war against China, and has been detached from the Japanese legation at London in order to come here as military observer. Lieutenant Narita is an expert in naval construction, and has looked after the construction of Japanese cruisers in American yards.

SPANISH FLEET EXPECTED

Lights in Morro Castle Flashed for the Past Three Nights.

Our Warships Are Now Keeping Out of Range of the Shore Batteries.

Special From a Staff Correspondent.

KEY WEST, Fla., May 18.—Via Jacksonville.—Blanco is showing signal lights from Morro Castle. Vessels which were off Havana last evening bring in this report. This was the third night in succession that signals were displayed. It leads to the belief that Blanco is really expecting the Spanish fleet to come along the southern coast, pass through Yucatan channel and reach Havana from the west.

The Spaniards in Havana will have to wait longer for relief. Everything is reported quiet along the coast where the blockading squadrons are cruising. The shore batteries have not lately been able to draw any of our boats within range, though all kinds of rumors are afloat about disasters to our ships. The eagerness of the Spanish defenders is great, for squads of cavalry frequently fire volleys at a craft three miles off shore.

Yesterday afternoon some boats were close enough, with aid of powerful glasses, to see sentries on Colimar battery.

The presence of the German ship Polaria in Key West is raising some interesting questions. It is proposed to let this ship pass the blockade and enter Havana harbor under diplomatic arrangements similar to that by which the French steamer Lafayette was permitted to go in.

Circumstances have changed greatly since then. It is impossible for any vessel to leave Key West today and go into Havana harbor without carrying information. It is information that cannot be sent out of Key West in any form to American newspapers, lest it should prove of great value to the enemy. Yet a single member of Polaria's crew once in Havana can give this news. The ship is kept in quarantine and no one is allowed to come ashore, but the crew are neither blind nor deaf.

Polaria put into Santiago on her way from Hamburg, and, it is stated, discharged her cargo, which had been consigned to Havana. As Santiago is not a blockaded port, this is said to be allowable.

She then came to Key West for orders. She made no attempt to run the blockade, and everything about her is regular. But the wisdom of allowing any vessel to pass the blockade and enter Havana on the eve of important naval movements is seriously questioned by all the officers here.

EXPEDITION TO MANILA

Troops Massing at San Francisco Ready for the Start.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 18.—Major General S. Otis, who has been ordered by the War Department to proceed to the Philippines Islands as second in command to Major General Wesley Merritt, has arrived here, accompanied by his staff. He will not talk for publication regarding his future movements, stating that the orders he has received have already been made public.

Battalions of nearly 700 volunteers from Oregon will arrive in this city today and will pitch their tents at the Presidio. A hospital corps for the 1st and 2d Battalions will be completed today. It is being made up of a number of scholarly young men, among whom are several druggists and dentists.

Branches of the Red Cross are already established throughout California, and it is proposed to call a convention to organize a state society.

A company of light cavalry is being formed in Oakland and an infantry company of colored men will be organized in this city. Both will tender their services to the government.

OMAHA, Neb., May 18.—Capt. Samuel R. Jones, assistant quartermaster of the Department of the Missouri, U. S. A., will sail on Saturday for the Philippines. He was ordered to report immediately at San Francisco. He has, in his capacity as acting adjutant general of the department, issued an order relieving himself of the duties, and naming Capt. John Baxter, jr., now stationed at Fort Riley, to be department quartermaster in his stead. He will be accompanied from here by Capt. Cockley, who has acted as the chief clerk for some time. It is probable several other men will be assigned to duty under Maj. Jones at San Francisco.

VANCOUVER BARRACKS, Wash., May 18.—Maj. Thomas H. Barry, assistant adjutant general of the Department of the Columbia, has received orders to report at the Presidio, California, for active field duty in the Philippine Islands. He will leave for San Francisco tonight.

LIEUT. COL. KING DEAD.

Capt. Black in Consequence Will Be Promoted to Major.

Gen. Wilson, chief of engineers, received a telegram today saying that Lieut. Col. W. R. King, corps of engineers, stationed at Rock Island, Ill., died there this morning. Col. King was one of the oldest officers in the army, and for some time had been engaged in superintending the improvement of the Mississippi river from the mouth of the Missouri to St. Paul, Minn. His death causes the promotion of Major Charles W. Raymond, formerly Engineer Commissioner of the District, and now stationed at Philadelphia, to the rank of lieutenant colonel; Capt. Wm. M. Black, Engineer Commissioner of the District, to the rank of major; First Lieut. M. M. Patrick, stationed at Memphis, Tenn., to the rank of captain, and Second Lieut. George P. Howell, stationed at Portland, Me., to the rank of first lieutenant.

The Oregon Safe.

Secretary Long said this afternoon that he had received assurance of the safety of the battle ship Oregon, that she had not been intercepted. He refused to say where she was.

THE AUXILIARY NAVY

Work Being Pushed on Vessels for Admiral Erben's Fleet.

TROUBLE WITH OHIO RESERVES

They Refuse to Go in Naval Service as Individuals.

ILLINOIS MEN WILL ENLIST

NEW YORK, May 18.—Another unnamed collier arrived at Brooklyn navy yard today and was towed to an anchorage at the upper end of the ordinance dock. The collier Harlech was taken out of dry dock No. 2 today and the steamer Scindia was docked in her place. A number of workmen are busy on board the refrigerator ship Celtic King, and she will be ready for service next week.

The auxiliary cruiser Gloucester has not yet arrived at the yard from the Quintard iron works, but she is expected daily. The Free Lance has joined Admiral Erben's harbor patrol fleet, and the Restless, Viking and Hist are all ready for similar service. The steam yacht Alleen is still undergoing repairs and alterations in dry dock No. 1.

The number of mechanics employed on board the dismantled cruiser Atlanta has been doubled and work on that vessel and on the cruiser Chicago is being rushed as fast as possible.

The Naval Reserves who have passed the examinations for individual enlistment into the United States navy from Ohio, Illinois and Michigan will arrive in this city either Friday or Saturday. They will be quartered on board the New Hampshire and the school ship St. Mary and will be immediately put to work on naval practices and tactics. They will remain aboard these vessels until wanted for the auxiliary cruisers under command of Admiral Erben, to be drafted as needed.

The navy auxiliary board was notified today that the Navy Department had purchased the large sea-going tug J. D. Jones from the Merritt-Chapman Wrecking Company and that the tug had been sent to the navy yard at Norfolk, Va.

The British steamer City of Truro, which arrived this morning from Licata, brought a cargo consisting of 2,500 tons of sulphur.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, May 18.—Lieut. Commander Hawley, the naval recruiting officer, has been advised by the Navy Department that it could not take the Ohio Naval Reserves as a body or any single division of them as such. Mr. Hawley was instructed to go to Chicago with his recruiting staff, as it was understood that the Illinois reserves were anxious to enlist individually. They decided that if they could not go as a body they would gladly go separately, he was told, and he expected to get a lot of men for the navy from the Chicago reserves.

As the Ohio men refused to enlist individually, the Navy Department must now seek elsewhere for its 200 emergency men that it expected to get from the reserves of Ohio.

SEATTLE, Wash., May 18.—A naval reserve division consisting of seventy-five men has been organized here.

TO GO TO DEWEY'S AID.

The Tenth Pennsylvania Regiment Will Join the Expedition.

Recognizing the excellent soldier material in the Pennsylvania National Guard, the War Department has decided to draw from that state for completing the quota for the Philippine expedition. The 10th Pennsylvania Regiment has been selected for this work, and orders have been issued hurrying it to San Francisco so that the men may leave with one of the first ships for Manila. The 10th is said to be the earliest organized of the state, and was actively engaged in keeping the peace during the time of the Hazelton riots, when a number of men lost their lives. The earlier program contemplated the dispatch of the regiment to Tampa and later to Cuba, but all this has now been changed, and they will go to Manila instead.

Meanwhile the department will endeavor to give Gen. Merritt, who is to command the expedition, at least a thousand more regulars than was at first proposed, and the 15th Infantry, located in New Mexico and Arizona, will probably be drawn on for that purpose.

TO ISOLATE BLANCO.

An Essential Move to Be Made as Soon as Possible.

The complete isolation of Gen. Blanco from the outside world is now looked upon by leading military and naval authorities as an essential move to be executed at the earliest possible moment. The pressing need of this has become more evident with the last few days, since Gen. Blanco is known to have been in constant cable communication with the admiral of the Spanish squadron, and also with Madrid. He has thus been an intermediary between the government and the admiral, informing them of his own needs and advising them on matters of policy. The authorities here are of the opinion that bringing this communication to an end, and official inquiry has developed that there will be little difficulty in isolating Capt. Gen. Blanco if the necessary steps are quickly taken, and energetically.

Three Available Cable Lines.

Havana's communication with the outside world is carried on by means of five distinct cable lines. Two of these run to the United States, and are, of course, closed against Gen. Blanco. The remaining three cables exist from Havana are by way of Santiago on the south coast of Cuba. Havana is connected by two land lines with Santiago, and also by one shore cable with Santiago. The actual departure of the cables from Cuba is at Santiago, two of the lines running thence to Jamaica and one to Hayti. When a message has once left Cuba by one of the three lines still open, it has no less than six different cable routes it can adopt after leaving Jamaica or Hayti. From Jamaica one route goes to Colon, Pernambuco, Cape Verde Islands, and thence to Spain; a second route goes to Bermuda, Halifax and thence to Spain; a third route goes to Venezuela, Pernambuco, Cape Verde and thence to Spain; a fourth route goes to the Windward Islands, Dutch Guiana, Pernambuco, Cape Verde and thence to the Windward Islands, Dutch Guiana, and thence to British Guiana.

To Cut the Cables.

The authorities here have with much la-

bor figured out all of these various means by which General Blanco can keep up his communications. They are satisfied that the three cables running to Santiago are the routes from which all these various branches spring, and that if the telephone root is cut the entire system of communication between Cuba and the outside world will be at an end.

Santiago is not a strongly fortified town, and it is believed there would be little danger attending the cutting of the three cables at that point.

The right to cut these cables is not doubted by the authorities here, although most of them are British cables. The chief signal officer, General Greely, first advanced the principle that in time of war the right existed to destroy property found in an enemy's territory, and in the case of cables that the right existed to destroy them within the three marine leagues constituting Spain's jurisdiction. This principle has now been accepted, and is the policy on which the government is acting. When the cables at Santiago will be cut is not disclosed, but there is strong pressure toward having the work done immediately, for, until it is done, General Blanco maintains his communications and is thus enabled to embarrass the operations of our military and naval forces.

CHARLESTON OFF TO MANILA.

Cruiser Leaves the Mare Island Navy Yard This Morning.

VALLEJO, Cal., May 18.—The cruiser Charleston got under way for Manila shortly after 10 o'clock this morning. Salutes were fired at Mare Island navy yard, and the employees of the yard and citizens of Vallejo, who were assembled along the shore, vigorously cheered the departing vessel.

The compasses of the Charleston will be adjusted as she proceeds down the bay, and no stop will be made at San Francisco. On the vessel are a number of newspaper correspondents, among them Mr. H. Langley Jones, who has been ordered to Manila to report movements of the United States troops there for the Associated Press.

MORRO BEACON LIGHTED UP.

Either for Expected Visitors or to Deceive Our Fleet.

Special Dispatch to The Evening Star.

OFF HAVANA, May 17, via Key West, May 18.—Again tonight, precisely at sunset, Morro castle's beacon was lighted and began flashing brightly every thirty seconds. "Either expecting visitors," remarked a blockading officer, "or wish us to think they are," and the line of blockading vessels spread out more widely, as if to encourage the elusive Cape Verde Island squadron to come within the blockade, where it could be got at. All other vessels must keep clear of the blockade, or, according to orders issued this afternoon by Commodore Watson, a shot gun will be fired across the bows of every intruder, including news dispatch boats.

No signs of movement could be observed in Havana today. Rain fell in the morning. Then the sun shone brilliantly, revealing much of the harbor. It would not be a surprise if the cruiser Alfonso XII, laid up there for new boiler tubes, should soon venture forth, for it is suspected that a ship which the Washington authorities permitted to enter carried in repairing material. Very soon, however, there will be an extraordinary American force in Cuban and Caribbean waters it is to be expected with anything yet heard of anywhere about there.

Some of the officers are inclined to think that when the Cape Verde squadron is met the war will then end, but more say that there will be still a prodigious job ahead of the army, because all Cuba will have to be bushwhacked as if the Spaniards were Indians.

NEW SPANISH CABINET.

Names Will Be Submitted to Queen Regent This Evening.

MADRID, May 18.—The new Spanish cabinet has been formed as follows: President of the council of ministers—Senator Praxedes Sagasta. Minister of foreign affairs—Senator Leon Y Caizelo. Minister of war—Lieutenant General Corra. Minister of marine—Senator Annon. Minister of the colonies—Senator Romero Glon. Minister of finance—Senator Lopez Puigcerver. Minister of the interior—Senator F. R. Capdepon. Minister of justice—Senator C. Greizard. Minister of public instruction—Senator Gamazo. Senator Sagasta will submit the names of the ministers to the queen regent during the day, and the cabinet officers will be sworn in this evening.

The premier will act as foreign minister pending the arrival here of Senor Castiella.

JAPAN AND PACIFIC ISLES.

Minister Hoshi Says Only Preservation of Rights is Wanted.

When the attention of Mr. Hoshi, the Japanese minister, was called today to the report concerning Japan's activity in the Philippines and Hawaii, he said some interesting information in addition to specific denial he made yesterday as to Japan's purpose to protest against our occupation of the Philippines. As to Hawaii, he said, Japan had no objection to the annexation of the Hawaiian group to the United States, but only question now involved, he said, was the payment of a suitable indemnity by the United States to the Hawaiian people. On this point Hawaii had imposed arbitration, and Japan had accepted it. It remained only to determine the scope of the arbitration, but the minister felt these details would be adjusted. The Japanese claim for an indemnity aggregating \$150,000,000.

When the minister was asked if the United States would become liable for this claim in case of annexation, he said he felt no doubt that annexation would be accompanied by assurances to Japan of all her rights and interests, including, of course, the claim, would be protected.

As to the Philippines, Mr. Hoshi said Japan naturally looked with interest on movements affecting those islands, for there were many Japanese there, and geographically, it was closely allied to the archipelago constituting the Japanese empire. At the same time Japan had not, he said, the slightest purpose of interfering with the present course of events. The fact that reports of a Japanese protest came by way of London was regarded by the minister as suggestive.

APPROPRIATION FOR PENSIONS.

An Urgent Deficiency Bill Passed by the House.

An urgent deficiency bill carrying \$5,437,002, mostly for pensions, was agreed on by the House committee on appropriations today and immediately reported to the House, where it was passed. The bill carries \$8,000,000 for payment of pensions, and other items of small amounts, including expenses of United States courts and clerical force and printing for the War and Navy Departments.

RECEIVES HIS ORDERS

Colonel Harries to Report With Regiment at Chickamauga.

COMMAND WILL LEAVE SATURDAY

Review by President and Others Prior to Departure.

EXPERIENCES IN CAMP

Col. George H. Harries made an official call on Adjutant General Corbin this morning and reported that the 1st District of Columbia U. S. Volunteers were mustered in and ready for any service they may be called on to perform. He received his instructions in the form of the following order:

"ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE.
"WASHINGTON, May 18, 1898.
"Col. George H. Harries, commanding 1st D. C. U. S. Volunteers.
"By direction of the Secretary of War you will proceed, Saturday, May 21, with your regiment to Chickamauga, Tenn., and report to the commanding general there. Upon receipt of this order you will at once communicate with the quartermaster general for the necessary transportation, and with the commissary general for ten days' field rations, the necessary travel rations and coffee money. Telegraph day of departure to commanding general at Camp George H. Thomas; also to this office, specifying amount of tentage and ammunition taken with you.
"Acknowledge receipt.
(Signed)
"H. C. CORBIN.
"Adjutant General."

Col. Harries lost no time in the execution of that portion of the order looking to the transportation of the regiment to Chickamauga and its subsistence en route. He conferred with Quartermaster General Ludington and Commissary General Eagan and perfected the necessary arrangements for the movement.

The War Department has contracted with the Baltimore and Ohio railroad for the transportation of the District regiment and equipment from Falls Church, Va., to Chickamauga at \$13.27 per capita, and \$12.13 for a car for horses.

The regiment consists of 980 men all told, including officers, troops, band and hospital force. There are 12 companies each of 77 men and 36 company officers.

The regimental officers include a colonel and staff of seven, three majors and three adjutants.

Col. Harries Early Asst.

Colonel Harries was active early and came to headquarters wearing the undress uniform of a brigadier general. When he went to the War Department his shoulder straps bore the eagles of a colonel, instead of the stars of a brigadier. The announcement that the regiment would leave Saturday was very gratifying to the officials at headquarters, and this sentiment was cordially shared by the officers and soldiers who yet remained at Center Market armory. At headquarters it was believed that the regiment would be taken direct from Camp Harries to Chickamauga. It was known that there has been a general disposition shown to have the 1st Regiment march through Washington.

and pass in review before the President, the Secretary of War, the District Commissioners and the military committees of the Senate and House of Representatives before its departure for Chickamauga. As announced first in The Star Monday. It was thought, however, that the men would be required to march from Woodburn Manor to the city over the right and heavy graded roads, and the review will not take place.

Of course an eight-mile march is nothing to seasoned soldiers, but the 1st Regiment, it is conceded, is not yet in a condition to take such a tramp as the one described, especially when a twenty-four-hour ride on the cars is before it.

A Parade and Review.

It was ascertained by a Star reporter on the very best authority late this afternoon that Camp Harries would be broken Saturday morning at 9 o'clock and the regiment would march to West Falls Church, get aboard cars and come to this city. The heavy baggage will go on by the way of Strasburg direct to Camp Thomas. The regiment will leave West Falls Church about 1 o'clock, and reach Washington about an hour later. A parade from Washington Circle, moving eastward, will be held about 4:30 o'clock, and the regiment will probably be reviewed by the President, the Secretary of War, the District Commissioners and the military committees of the House and Senate. The regiment will march in the west gate of the White House grounds and before the portion of the Executive Mansion, thence out at the east



Admiral Visiting.